

House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Miller: Low-income Households Should Apply for CT Energy Assistance Program Now



With home heating costs expected to be significantly higher this winter, low-income families should apply for the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) as soon as possible, state Representative Lawrence G. Miller, R-122nd District, said today.

Applications for the program, which provides assistance to low-income households to offset home heating costs, can be submitted anytime between November 1, 2005 and March 15, 2006, but because oil and gas prices are skyrocketing, eligible residents should apply immediately to ensure they receive the benefit, Representative Miller said.

Households that use a deliverable fuel (oil, gas, kerosene) as their primary heat source should apply now through their local community action agencies, or call Infoline (2-1-1) or the Department of Social Services (DSS) Energy Line (1-800-842-1132) for information on where to apply, Representative Miller said.

Heating assistance benefits were increased under legislation approved by the Connecticut General Assembly in October. The new CEAP basic benefits currently available include:

Vulnerable Households:

Households with:

- A child under age 6
- An adult age 60+
- A disabled person of any age

Non-Vulnerable Households:

Renters:

If rent is more than 30% of the household's income and heat is included in rent

Income up to:

The Federal Poverty Level (\$16,090 for a three person household)

\$675

\$635

\$270

101% to 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$20,113 for a three person household)

\$580

\$535

\$255

\$485

\$435

\$240

126% to 150%
of the Federal
Poverty Level
(\$24,135 for a
three person
household)

151% to 200%
of the Federal
Poverty Level
(\$32,180 for a
three person
household)

\$400 (This benefit is only for households with an
adult age 60+ or a disabled person of any age)

None

- Shelton residents can apply at TEAM, Inc. at 30 Elizabeth Street in Derby (Tel: 736-5420). Stratford is covered by Action for Bridgeport Community Development Inc, 1070 Park Avenue, Bridgeport (Tel: 384-6904). Bring proof of income for everyone in the household and a copy of your fuel or utility bill. For more information, please call either agency.
- The Contingency Heating Assistance Program funded under the new law provides households that are not eligible for CEAP, but have incomes up to 60 percent of state median income (up to \$43,344 for a three-person household) with a basic benefit of \$300. The benefit is available to households that heat with deliverable fuels.